# The Caledonian Mercury. No. 10,188.

Price 3d.] EDINBURGH, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28. 1786.


## Meeting of Mr Frazer's Claſs.

IT is propoſed that the Gentlemen who attended Mr Frazer's Courſe at the High School, during the years 1773, 1774, 1775, or 1776, ſhould dine at No. 2. Prince's-ſtreet Tavern, on Saturday the 6th of January next.

Thoſe who mean to attend, are requeſted to put down their names at leaſt two days previous to the meeting.

Dinner at four o'clock.

## A Houſe-Dog Stolen.

THAT on Hallow Fair week, (by miſtake in laſt advertiſement ſaid to be only fourteen days ago) there was STOLEN from Roſefield, near to Figget, on the Muſſelburgh road, a LARGE HOUSE-DOG, of the Newfoundland kind, who anſwers to the name of POMPY, has long ſhagged hair, black and white; when reſting, he has a convulſive motion in one of his fore legs.

The perſon who, it is preſumed, carried him off, was ſeen travelling eaſtward on the Haddington road, and was obſerved alight from his horſe, in order to entice the dog to follow him, and upon being challenged for this, he owned that he had formerly entiſed away, and kept the dog for ſome months laſt year.

Whoever will give ſuch information to Mr William Jamieſon, brick and tyle manufacturer at Roſefield, the proprietor, or to William Scott, Procurator Fiſcal of the county of Edinburgh, as ſhall lead to a diſcovery of the dog, and perſon who carried him off, ſhall be handſomely rewarded, and the informer's name concealed.

*Edinburgh, Dec.* 18. 1786.

## WILLIAM TEMPLE,

VINTNER AT MID CALDER,

HAVING taken that large and commodious INN, lately poſſeſſed by the deceaſed Thomas Nicolſon, being the firſt ſtage from Edinburgh to Glaſgow, has laid in a freſh ſtock of wines of the beſt kinds, and purchaſed neat poſt chaiſes and able horſes.

The public may rely upon every attention being paid to accommodate them, upon the ſhorteſt notice.

## JOHN GRAY,

TEA AND SPIRIT DEALER,

At the Croſs, ſouth ſide of the High Street, Edinburgh,

RETURNS his moſt grateful thanks to the Public in general, and his Friends in particular, for their many paſt favours, and aſſures them, that to merit a continuation of them ſhall be his firm, conſtant, and uniform endeavour.

At ſame time begs leave to inform them, that he has on hand at preſent, a very large quantity of TEAS and SPIRITS, which he is now ſelling at the following low prices, viz.

| TEAS. | per lib. s. | d. | SPIRITS. | per gal. s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bohea, at | 1 | 10 | Beſt old Jamaica Rum, | 9 | 0 |
| Fine ditto, | 2 | 0 | Good ditto, | 8 | 6 |
| Congo, | 3 | 6 | Single ditto, | 6 | 0 |
| Good ditto, | 4 | 0 | Beſt French Brandy, | 8 | 6 |
| Fine ditto, | 4 | 6 | Good ditto, | 7 | 6 |
| Souchong, | 5 | 6 | Single ditto, | 4 | 6 |
| Good ditto, | 6 | 0 | Cinnamon, | 6 | 0 |
| Fineſt ditto, | 6 | 6 | Beſt Hollands Geneva, | 6 | 0 |
| Single, | 4 | 0 | Good ditto, | | |
| Beſt Hyſon, | 5 | 0 | Beſt old rectified whilky, | 3 | 0 |
| | | | Good ditto, | 2 | 10 |
| | | | Single ditto, | 2 | 6 |

N. B. FRUITS, SOAP, and STARCH, ſold as cheap as in any ſhop in town.——Retailers taking a quantity, will be allowed a proper diſcount.

## Captain James Robertſon's Creditors.

AS the Lands and Eſtate of EARNOCK are now ſold, the Creditors of the ſaid Captain James Robertſon are requeſted to lodge notes of their debts, ſpecifying the principal ſums, and the annualrents due, with Mr Mitchelſon junr. Nicolſon's Street, Edinburgh, or with Mr John Boyes, junior, writer in Hamilton.

AT LONDON—FOR LEITH,

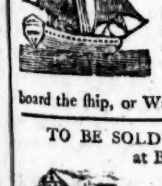
## The STAR,

DONALD DENOON Maſter,

Lying at Hore's Wharf, taking in goods for Edinburgh, and all places adjacent, and will ſail the 10th January 1787.

The ſhip has good accommodation for paſſengers.

The maſter to be ſpoke with at the New England Coffeehouſe.



AT LONDON—FOR LEITH,

## The Smack Newcaſtle,

JOHN CLARK Maſter,

Is taking in goods at Miller Wharf, oppoſite Burr's Street, for Edinburgh and all places adjacent, and to be delivered at Leith, ſails poſitively the 6th January 1787, wind and weather ſerving.

The maſter to be ſpoke with on board the ſhip, or Walter Millar for the maſter.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT, at Berwick upon Tweed,

## A Hull of a New Brig,

about 140 tons meaſurement, will carry 9 keels of coals at 11 feet water, and ſhift without ballaſt, is extraordinary well timbered, and a large ſcantling, all Engliſh Oak, is moſtly ſkin'd below the wales, with 3 inch oak plank, and 3 wales of 4½ inches Suſſex plank; will anſwer well where burthen and diſpatch is required; can be launched at five days notice.

Length of the Keel 60 Feet.
Breadth of Beam 20 ditto.
Depth of the Hold from the ceiling to the Deck 13 ditto.

Likewiſe, to be SOLD at the ſame place, a VESSEL, about 80 Tuns bounty meaſurement, built after the model of the Berwick Smacks, will be fit for any trade, particularly the Herring Fiſhing; will be ready to launch about June next, or ſooner if required.

For further particulars, apply to Mr Arthur Byram of Berwick aforeſaid.

*For Kingſton, Black River, and Savannah-la-Mar,*

JAMAICA,

(To call at Madeira)

## The Ship GRANDVALE,

ROBERT BAINE Maſter,

Lying in the harbour of Port Glaſgow, is now ready to take on board goods, and will poſitively ſail by the 1ſt of January.

Any perſons who wiſh to have wines ſhipped by this veſſel from Madeira for Clyde, will pleaſe give their orders immediately to Loudoun, Craigie, and Co. Merchants, Glaſgow, mentioning the quality of the wine they want, and they may depend on not being diſappointed.

The Grandvale has excellent accommodation for Paſſengers—For freight or paſſage apply as above, or to the Captain at Port-Glaſgow.

Glaſgow, Dec. 11, 1786.

## WANTS A PLACE,

A YOUNG MAN, native of Germany, ſpeaks Engliſh and French very well; can ſhave, and dreſs Ladies and Gentlemen's hair; ſhould be glad to engage himſelf with a ſingle Gentleman, or as Valet or Butler in a family; has no objection to go to England, or abroad.

Direct for A. B. at Mr Brown's, perfumer, St Anrew's, Street, New Town.

## Journeymen Tailors Wanted.

WHEREAS for ſome time paſt, the JOURNEYMEN TAILORS of Edinburgh and Suburbs have left off work, and combined together to raiſe the rate of wages, Notice is hereby given, that JOURNEYMEN TAILORS from the country will receive employment, on applying to the Deacons and Treaſurers of the Incorporations of Tailors of Edinburgh, Leith, Canongate, and Eaſter and Weſter Portſburgh; and that every Journeyman, applying as above, will meet with conſtant employment, and the protection of the Magiſtrates.

## Shop in Bridge-Street to Let.

TO be LET, and entered to immediately, That SHOP on Bridge-Street, lately poſſeſſed by William Ormſton, merchant. This Shop has the convenience of a ſmall back-room, in which there is a ſtove, and is completely fitted up with glaſs-caſes and counters, which the tenant may have the uſe of, if he inclines.

Apply to Richard Prentice, ſolicitor at law, Heriot's Bridge.

## HOUSE IN GEORGE-STREET.

To be SOLD by Public Roup, within the Royal Exchange Coffeehouſe, Edinburgh, on Wedneſday 24th January, 1787, between the hours of ſix and ſeven afternoon,

THAT HOUSE on the north ſide of George-ſtreet, being the one immediately to the eaſt of St Andrew's Church, conſiſting of a dining room, drawing room, and nine bedrooms, with ſervants hall, kitchen, cellars, back ground, and other conveniencies.

Alſo an AREA of 40 feet in front of Thiſtle-ſtreet, ſufficient for building a coach houſe and ſtables, beſides ſeveral other conveniencies.

For particulars, apply to Daniel Hamilton, clerk to the ſignet, Wind-mill-ſtreet, Edinburgh.

*The following letter is copied from the London Gazette of Saturday the 4th of December.*

*Corſham, 27th Oct.* 1786.

"SIR,

WM. Newman of Corſham, Wilts, was ſuddenly ſeized with a violent pain in his bowels, and obliged to leave his work; not able to walk or ſtand, was conducted home between two perſons; and living next door to me, and having the character of a very honeſt man, with a family of eight children, I ſtepped in, to enquire how he was; and found his wife, and ſome of his neighbours heating bricks or tiles, to apply to his body, which I thought improper; and having compaſſion on the poor man, who was groaning under the moſt excruciating pain, gave him ſome of your Oriental Vegetable Cordial; and to my great ſurprize, after he had taken [illegible] he found himſelf quite relieved; and in a few hours, got up and went to work. This I am ready to verify upon oath, if required.

I am, Sir, your humble ſervant,

RICHARD BOUCHER."

To Mr B. CORNWELL, London.

†‖† The extraordinary influence that the ORIENTAL VEGETABLE CORDIAL imparts to the ſtomach, from its tonic and invigorating qualities, is ſtrongly exemplified by the immediate effects produced in taking it when the ſtomach is overloaded with food, nauſeated with ſurfeit, or debilitated by intemperance.

To conſtitutionally weak ſtomachs it affords a pleaſing ſenſation; it accelerates the proceſs of digeſtion, corrects crudities, and removes the cholic and flatulencies; it diffuſes a genial warmth that cheriſhes the animal ſpirits, and takes away the liſtleſsneſs and langour that ſo greatly embitters the hours of nervous people; and the unerring teſt of experience has confirmed its utility.

Sold by Mr B. Cornwell, Conduit Street, Hanover Square, in bottles at 5 s. each, duty included, and by Meſſ. HUSBAND, ELDER, and CO. Edinburgh.

A circumſtance happened at Douay ſome years ago, which marks the honeſt unguarded effuſions of the military character, even more than Uncle Toby's celebrated oath.——A Scots gentleman of the name of GRANT, who had retired into France, after the battle of Culloden, with many others of his brave but infatuated countrymen, was remarkable for giving into all the gaieties and faſhionable diſſipations of that volatile people. Being, however, as much diſtinguiſhed for a liberal, generous, and ſocial diſpoſition, he ſtood in the higheſt eſteem with all the unfortunate exiles, whom the ſame miſtaken notions of loyalty had expatriated. Captain Grant was viſited in the height of his pleaſurable career by one of thoſe ſudden admonitions, at times ſo neceſſary to remind a gallant accompliſhed young cavalier that he is no more than mortal. He was ſeized with a violent fever, which, in his own opinion, as well as that of his phyſician, was likely to put a period to his life. In order to prepare for the awful moment, which he apprehended was ſhortly to arrive, he ſent to his Uncle Abbe Grant, who was then ſuperior of the Scots College at Douay, and received from his hands the ſacrament, and other rituals of the church, in a very penitent manner.

Juſt as the Abbe had quitted his nephew, after performing this laſt and melancholy office, Dr Mac Kernan, the Superior of the Iriſh College, with whom, notwithſtanding his rakiſh character, Captain Grant had been always a particular favourite, called to ſee how he did. Upon entering the room, and asking his friend how he found himſelf? the Captain replied, in a very ſerious tone, "Ah, my dear "Doctor, I feel my mind now at eaſe, for I truſt "I have made my peace with God, and I'll be "damned if ever we fall out again." The good Doctor, who perfectly knew that his friend had not the moſt diſtant idea of impiety in this curious ſpeech, ſmiled, and only anſwered, he wiſhed they may long continue upon ſuch good terms; but ſincerely hoped that they may not ſettle accounts for a long time to come. The Captain recovered, and was ſince promoted to the rank of Major General; but whether he kept inviolate the treaty of paciſication, we cannot take upon ourſelves to ſay.

*To the Printer of the Caledonian Mercury.*

SIR,

I WAS ſo much pleaſed with a letter in your Mercury, of Thurſday laſt, ſigned A. H. on the propoſed alteration of the Corn Laws, that I cannot help expreſſing my approbation of it in this public manner. There is ſo much moderation and good temper diſplayed in that letter, together with ſo profound a knowledge of the ſubject, as leads me to wiſh that it may be ſeriouſly attended to by the whole kingdom. If I do not entirely acquieſce in his commendation of the knowledge and views of the landed gentlemen, I pardon him for his inſinuating manner of obtaining their favourable ear to the ſerious warning he gives them, That manufactures can *make themſelves wings, and fly* from every ſpecies of inconveniency and oppreſſion. I muſt confeſs, I am not yet reconciled to our landed gentlemen, for having ſuffered themſelves to be the dupes of artful diſtillers laſt year; or of the ſelfiſh and intereſted of their own number, who, to give themſelves conſequence, or perhaps for ſtill meaner motives, raiſed ſuch golden proſpects, from the new encouragement then propoſed to be given to the diſtillery, as made the gaping credulity of avarice ſwallow the moſt abſurd and falſe aſſertions.

I believe there may be a few country gentlemen ſuch as Mr A. H. deſcribes, into the mouth of one of whom he puts liberal ſentiments indeed. But the misfortune is, that in this country at leaſt, if not in all countries, the well-informed and wiſe are generally at the ſame time modeſt and diffident, and very backward to impoſe their notions, however well-digeſted, on the community; while your pragmatical novices in political arithmetic, but half informed on the ſubject in hand, and incapable of profound thinking on any ſubject, but with ſiniſter deſigns for their own intereſt, take advantage of the weakneſſes and paſſions of the common run of country gentlemen; and, by their little incentive arts, warm them into ſuch a degree of enthuſiaſm, as makes them purſue their undigeſted plans, with an eagerneſs that nothing can ſtop, till fatal experience has firſt cooled them, and then opened their eyes.

It is truly impoſſible to be ſorry for a ſet of gentlemen, ſuppoſed to be of liberal education, who were ſo much blinded by their deſire of gain, as to believe that diſtilleries, if they were [illegible] the waſte muirs in Scotland [illegible] barley would never fall below [illegible] all time coming. But I do heartily pity the farmers, who were not conſulted on the occaſion, but who find to their coſt, that there is no market at all for the barley of Scottiſh growth, ſince the new diſtillery law took place: for England furniſhes almoſt the whole conſumption. They have even opened a new trade ſince that time; for they import large quantities of Engliſh barley to be manufactured into malt, and, for an obvious reaſon, return it, in that ſtate, to the country whence it came.

If ſuch are the conſequences of the deliberations of our petty Parliaments, either of country gentlemen, or of merciants and manufacturers, it is my fervent wiſh, that, according to the ſound advice of A. H. we would leave our important affairs, as heretofore, to the wiſdom of that Parliament which meets at Weſtminſter, who are the beſt judges of the general intereſt, and who, we truſt, will watch every opportunity of extending our commerce on the moſt liberal plans, as the prejudices of mercantile men wear off, and their minds open to more enlarged views. I am, Sir,

*Berwickſhire, Dec.* 20. 1786. Yours, &c. C. D.

ANECDOTE *of* CAROLAN, *the laſt Iriſh Bard, and the Author of* "O'Rourke's noble Farewell ne'er to be forgot *," *tranſlated by* Swift.——Carolan was a poet, a muſician, a compoſer, and ſung his own verſes to his harp. He was born blind, but poſſeſſed a moſt retentive memory. Arriving at the houſe of a Nobleman, he found a brother muſician had got the ſtart of him. He was well received, however; but Carolan challenged his competitor to a trial of muſical ſkill. To humour the joke, the Nobleman perſuaded the other to accept it, who thereupon played the 5th Concerto of Vivaldi.—Carolan immediately took his harp, and, though he had never heard it before, played it through without miſſing a note, and immediately after played a Concerto in the ſame ſtile, compoſed at his *fingers end.* He was a great Uſquebaugh tippler, which at length finiſhed him; and when he was at the point of death he called for a cup of his beloved liquor, and attempted to drink it, but could not. On his failure, he ſaid, it was hard that two ſuch good friends ſhould part, at leaſt without one embrace, and therefore kiſſed the cup and died.

* This was by no means his beſt compoſition; his ſongs in general may be compared to Pindar.

PRICES OF CORN AT CORN EXCHANGE, Dec. 22.

| | s. | s. | d. | | s. | s. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wheat, | 32 to | 38 | 0 | Hog Peaſe, | 26 to | 30 | 0 |
| Barley, | 21 to | 24 | 0 | Beans, | 27 to | 29 | 0 |
| Rye, | 25 to | 27 | 0 | Tares, | 23 to | 25 | 0 |
| Oats, | 15 to | 20 | 0 | Flour per Sack. | | | |
| Pale Malt, | 31 to | 33 | 0 | Firſt, | 30 | | |
| Brown Malt, | 32 to | 34 | 6 | Second, | 27 | | |
| Peaſe, | 36 to | 38 | 0 | Third, | 22 to | 23 | 0 |

PRICES OF GRAIN AT HADDINGTON, Dec. 22.

| | First. | | Second. | | Third. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 20s. | d. | 19s. | d. | 18 | 0 |
| Wheat, | 17 | 6 | 16 | 0 | 14 | 0 |
| Barley, | 13 | 0 | 11 | 6 | 10 | 0 |
| Oats, | 16 | 0 | 15 | 0 | —— | |
| Peaſe, | | | | | | |

*Deſcription of* La Baume, *or the* Ladies' Grotto, *at* St Bauzil, *near* Ganges, *a town in the* Cevennes, *in* Languedoc.

THIS Grotto has been lately diſcovered by M. Lonjou, an inhabitant of Ganges, and a great lover of natural curioſities. It lies about two miles from the town, in a wood, at the top of a very ſteep and high mountain, called the Rock of Saurach. A report is ſpread in that part of the country, that a numerous family, in the times of the bloody wars on account of religion, had retired, in order to avoid perſecution and death, to this cave. Some of them were often ſeen in the evenings, quite naked, pale, and diſfigured, hunting after food, and trying to catch the wild goats that dwelt among the rocks. It is imagined, that the children which were produced by this little colony of wretched beings, lived only upon graſs and roots, and what they could catch by chance in their huntings about the place. They were certainly naked, and contingedt to lead a kind of ſavage life. The people who lived in and near the Cevennes, looked upon them as a little nation of gypſies, or, as they uſed to call them, *Doumaiſelles*, (furies). Time, however, diſorders, and miſery, at length exterminated the whole race. By the bones that have been found in the cave, it is preſumed they exiſted a long while, and many tools, but clumſily made, that are ſtill preſerved, give us an idea of their arts and their knowledge.—Being looked upon as a ſpecies of ſupernatural beings, they had ſpread ſuch a terror about the neighbourhood, that none would venture to approach the windings and paths that led to the Grotto. M. Lonjou, accompanied by his ſon, by the Marquis of Mont Laur, by Meſſrs Bouiſſy, † Marſollier, Brunet, and Alut; by the Preſident of Ribes, M. Martin de Choiſy, and one Peter, the moſt ſenſible young countryman about Ganges, and the moſt intrepid, undertook the dangerous taſk of deſcending into the cave, after having, with the greateſt difficulty, climbed to the top of the almoſt inacceſſible rock. The mouth of the cavern was ſurrounded with lofty thick trees, as if intended to hide its entrance, and the looking down the crater was ſo terrible and ſo diſmal, that Mr Brunet's large dog, one of the moſt [illegible] creatures in the world, had not the courage, barking [illegible] and yelling in a moſt plai[illegible] came out of it.

The firſt [illegible] object which ſtruck our intrepid travellers [illegible] was an altar, as white as alabaſter, [illegible] three feet high, perfectly oval, with regular ſteps. The altar-ſlab is of a bright enamel, formed by different layers like archichoke leaves. A little farther are four fluted pillars of a yelloviſh hue, but tranſparent in many places, notwithſtanding their thickneſs. Their height could not be aſcertained, but they imagined they reached the top of the ſtupendous vault, for at ſome diſtance there was an obeliſk that ſtood alone, and ſeemed higher than a ſteeple: it ended in a ſpire, and from the foundation to the top it was carved and chaſed with the utmoſt exactneſs. One of the wonders of the Grotto is a coloſſal ſtatue, repreſenting a woman holding two children in her arms. This *morceau*, ſays M. Marſollier, who writes the deſcription at large, deſerves a place in the moſt curious muſeum of the greateſt monarch of Europe, if, out of its natural ſituation, it could preſerve the beauty and the proportions it poſſeſſes in the cave. It is impoſſible, continues he, to give an idea of what we ſaw without incurring the danger of our veracity being called in queſtion. After having examined with aſtoniſhment theſe precious wonders of nature, where numbers of ſtalactites and ſtalagmites enrich one of the moſt ſpacious ſubterraneous rooms perhaps ever viſited in France, we left the place with regret; not, however, without leaving our names, and a deſcription of the means employed for our deſcent, in a bottle ſuſpended where there is little probability of its being broken. Some countrymen, who had followed us, ſeemed ſo fond of theſe ſubterraneous and awful prodigies, that they unanimouſly cried out, "Give us but ſome bread and water, and we will ſtay here for a week."

It would take up too much of your paper, Mr Editor, were I to give you the whole of M. Marſollier's deſcription; and therefore I ſhall conclude with obſerving, that this enchanting ſpot is not, perhaps, as a natural curioſity, inferior to the celebrated Peak of Derbyſhire.

† The author of Nina (the Maniac in Love) a comedy acted with univerſal applauſe at the Italian theatre.

## Sale of Goods, and Set of Subjects AT MAINPOINT.

WHEREAS the Copartnery trade, for many years carried on at Mainpoint, near Portſburgh, Edinburgh, formerly under the Firm or Deſignation of JOSEPH and DAVID GAVIN and CO. and after the deceaſe of the ſaids Joſeph and David Gavins, under the Firm of AGNES GAVIN and COMPANY, is now by the deceaſe of Mrs Gavin, finally diſſolved, which requires the affairs of the Company to be ſpeedily winded up.—The ſtock of goods on hand, belonging to the ſaid Agnes Gavin and Company, will continue to be ſold off at the ſhop at Mainpoint, poſſeſſed by the ſaid Company, at low prices, but only for ready money; and ſuch as are indebted to the ſaid Company, are deſired to pay what they owe by bills or accompts to Bailie Peter Hardie, brewer in Portſburgh, who is authoriſed to receive and diſcharge the ſame; and any perſons to whom the ſaid Company ſtood indebted, will be pleaſed to apply to him for payment. And there is to be let and entered to at Whitſunday next, or ſooner, that well-frequented Shop at Mainpoint, formerly poſſeſſed by the aforeſaid Company, with a variety of cellars, and other accommodations.

For further particulars, enquire at the ſaid Bailie Peter Hardie.

FROM THE LONDON PAPERS, *Dec.* 25.

*Paris, Dec.* 11. Mr Abbamouchi is received here with great cordiality and respect, and his misfortunes universally lamented. He was formerly Lieutenant-Colonel of Corsica, but condemned by the Council of Bastia in 1782, to be whipped and branded, and afterwards sent to the gallies for the term of three years, for having seduced a young girl. He underwent his sentence with the utmost patience, and without a murmur; but at the completion of it, he applied to the grand Council for redress, having been condemned under false accusations and pretences. A full hearing was granted to him, and the proceedings of the Court sent to the Parliament of *Aix*. After fresh examinations of witnesses, and thorough investigation of facts, he was declared innocent. His prosecutor, who is a priest, and whose intentions were evidently malicious, is condemned to suffer the same punishments inflicted on him who was the victim of his malevolence.—The King has been pleased to re-appoint the Colonel to all his former honours, received him at Court, and made full reparations for all the injuries he has sustained.

*Paris, Dec.* 14. On the 3d instant, Monseigneur le Duc de Chartres took the oaths, in his Majesty's presence, as Governor and Lieutenant general of Poictou.

The King has been pleased to grant to M. Lally-Tollanden the beautiful apartments which the deceased Mademoiselle Dillon occupied in the Royal Castle of St Germain en Laye. In addition to this flattering compliment, his Majesty has ordered him a pension of 3000 livres, to be paid out of the royal treasury. Justice requires that we should undeceive the public from a misrepresentation which certain papers were led into some little time back, respecting this distinguished young nobleman. Some persons, whom we rather suppose ill-informed than ill-disposed, had stated that his last memoirs had been suppressed by the arret of council; but there was not the smallest foundation for such a report. The fact is, that this elegant piece, which would not disgrace the pen of a Burke or a Sheridan, is in more request than ever among all ranks; and that, instead of suffering by the answer which has been made to it, its force and truth shine forth more and more every day.

It is the general opinion, that the great ability, zeal, and filial piety, which M. Lally has given so many proofs of, will be shortly crowned with success.

LONDON, —*Dec.* 25.

His Excellency the Portuguese Ambassador has lately had several conferences with the Chiefs of Administration on further representations lately sent over from the Court of Lisbon, relative to the admissibility of several articlet of British manufacture in the Portuguese settlements abroad.

The Wine Bill is to undergo a total alteration incomprehensible to Parliament. It is at present to commissioners, how neither the merchants, the Perhaps such a jumble excise-men understand it.—before made its appearance in Blackletter.

Colonel Elliot is, we hear, charged with a very important mission to the piratical States of Barbary. It seems the General has sent a very considerable sum of money to make an atonement for the insult offered by the Portugueze to the Algerines; and the Dey, it is said, has treated the present with the utmost contempt.

The King of France has ordered twelve new ships of the line to be built at Brest, three of which are contracted for to be finished in the course of the current year, and the other nine in 1788.

The King of Spain is equally attentive to the establishment of his marine, which, by a late order from Don de Cordova, Director-General of that department, is with the utmost expedition to be completed to 28 ships of the line and 130 frigates.

A plan will shortly be laid before his Majesty for abolishing in future the rank of Major in the army. The officers who fill that rank at present are the most useful in the service, as the discipline of the regiments depends chiefly upon them; but the reward they have hitherto received has been cold neglect. They have long had the mortification of seeing Captains thrust over their heads, and made Lieutenant-Colonels, without passing through the rank of Majors. This is the case with all the Lieutenants in the three regiments of foot guards; for the instant they are promoted to the command of companies in the guards, they rank as Lieutenant-Colonels in the army, without having ever been Majors. It will be proposed, therefore, that the latter rank may be totally abolished, as useless; and another Lieutenant-Colonel added to each regiment, in the room of the Major.

The Sieur Beaucham, Vicar-General of Babylon, and Correspondent of the Academy of Sciences at Paris, has written an account of his observation of the passage of Mercury over the Sun, on the 4th of May, at Bagdad. The contact began at 5 seconds after six in the morning, was at the height 22 minutes and 52 seconds after eleven, and totally gone past at 26 minutes and 48 seconds after eleven. He has transmitted to the Academy a new chart of Mesopotamia, and the course of Tigris and Euphrates. He proposes to spend the winter at Ispahan, and then to go to the Caspian Sea, to determine the different longitudes there, now but very badly known.

The offer made by *Macklin*, the publisher of the intended work from the Poets, to *Peters*, was no less a sum than *eighteen hundred guineas* for *six* pictures only from *Milton*.

A letter from Port Royal, Jamaica, has the following article: "I suppose before this reaches you, you will have received the particulars of the dreadful hurricane, and therefore need not relate them to you. I and many others were great sufferers by it, but we just received an account, by the master of a Spanish advice-boat, who is put in here in very great distress, that it was much more severe at the Havannah, and all over the island of Cuba, than it was here; that all the plantations were destroyed, and most of the houses unroofed; that the inhabitants were thrown into the greatest confusion, expecting every moment to be buried in the ruins; that all the finest trees in the island were blown up by the roots, and in the harbour of Havannah six ships were totally lost, two of them richly laden, and not a vessel escaped but what was damaged; and, to their misfortune, a disorder is broke out among the inhabitants, which has carried off some hundreds. They have also had advice from the island of Hispaniola, that it was as severely felt there as at the Havannah."

*Extract of a letter from Gibraltar, Nov.* 14.

"Yesterday arrived here the St Jerome, of 24 guns, Capt. Alderos, from Cadiz, with a convoy of fourteen sail from Holland. These vessels had no sooner come out of port than they met with a heavy gale of wind, which in a few hours separated the whole squadron, and five of the convoy were seen to founder by the Jerome's people. Two others are now in the Mole very much disabled, and the major part of their cargoes thrown overboard. The St Jerome has carried away her mizen mast, fore and main-top masts, and thrown all her guns and heavy stores into the sea in the gale; but as her hull has not been damaged, she will soon get here the repairs she wants, and return back to Cadiz with the two other vessels, which are rendered incapable of proceeding on the voyage."

*Extract of a letter from Dantzick, Nov.* 30.

"Since the receipt of some late dispatches from Petersburgh, the Grand Council of this city have assembled in general convocation. The magistrate reported the answers from Russia, Warsaw, and Berlin, to various proposals made by the city. The first of these answers is fully satisfactory; and it expressly declares, that "The Empress still persisted in her favourable disposition towards the inhabitants, and that they might depend on her powerful and constant protection." On the part of Poland it was also declared, that "The court would continue in its best exertions to induce his Prussian Majesty to restore the Dantzic and Polish trade to its pristine freedom." So far, so good, and our happiness would be complete, had the cabinet of Berlin answered in a manner calculated to quiet our apprehensions; but the declaration from that quarter was, that "His Prussian Majesty would not in the least point deviate from the conditions stipulated and insisted upon by his royal predecessor." By this determination we are left without the smallest hopes of seeing matters adjusted to our wishes. But what makes us still more uneasy is, a piece of information just received, that his Prussian Majesty has granted to his subjects a free trade of coffee and tobacco. This permission, which also extends to Prussia, cannot fail to occasion a competition, which must turn to the prejudice of our traders."

*Extract of a letter from an English gentleman at Paris, dated Dec.* 15.

"The Commercial Treaty lately negociated with Great Britain seems very agreeable to all parties in this metro[illegible]. The most profound politicians here look on it as a circum[illegible] will *hereafter* greatly conduce to the wealth and [illegible] France.

"I do not mean to insinuate upon this occasion that the English Administration is to blame for concluding a fair and reasonable treaty, for such in fact it appears to be. I would only say, that there is not the least cause of exultation on our side, as if we had gained any advantage over our neighbours, and as if we might sit down in security, fearless of future danger. The treaty concluded between the French and English wears a more auspicious aspect to the affairs of the former than those of the latter.

"Ideas of jealousy have hitherto governed our conduct towards France. These are, for the present, laid aside as illiberal, and the prospect of present gain is too lively and pleasing an emotion to attend for a moment to *remote* and *contingent consequences*. Men of reflection, however, will consider, that national power is not absolute, but relative; and that we have reason to be anxious about the consequences of any measure, which tends *eventually* to *increase* the *power* of our rivals still more than it does to *promote our own*."

*Canterbury, Dec.* 19. A few days since, as some gentlemen were hunting in the woods near Malling, they suddenly discovered some smoke issue from a thick lump of bushes in the most remote part of a thick wood; and upon calling a party together, they searched and found a cavern-like asylum, partly above and partly under ground, and upon entering this temporary hovel, discovered a man with a long beard employed in picking of fowls, and with a large tin kettle over a good fire, in which was a goose boiling. Several fowls and sacks, besides a great quantity of rosemary, sage, turnips, and other things were found in the dwelling, which was furnished with a couch, rugs, and every conveniency for a small family. Upon his being discovered, he impeached a gang of fowl-stealers; three of whom were that evening apprehended, and with this hermit of the wood, committed by the Rev. Mr Style to Maidstone Bridewell.

*Anecdote.*—WILLIAM LYON, a strolling player, performed in the year 1748 at Edinburgh, and was a most excellent representative of *Gibby* in the Wonder—This man was himself a *wonder*, remarkable for strength of memory, of which he gave the following surprising instance—One evening, he wagered a crown bowl of punch, that next morning at the rehearsal he would repeat a *Daily Advertiser* from beginning to end—At the rehearsal his opponent reminded him of his wager, imagining as he was drunk the night before, that he must certainly have forgot it, and rallied him on his ridiculous bragging of his memory—Lyon very coolly producing the paper, handed it to his adversary, and notwithstanding the unconnection between the paragraphs, the variety of advertisements, and the general *chaos*, repeated it from beginning to end without the least *hesitation* or *mistake!*

Amongst the literary works of the last King of Prussia, the following are those most valued, and which, we hope, soon to see communicated to the world, by some hand worthy of reviving the labours of their immortal author.

A critical history of the seven years war. This great warrior has in this, as in many other traits of his conduct, adapted the example of the best writer and commander Rome ever produced. Like Cæsar in his Commentaries, as he modestly stiled his elegant history of his war with the Gauls, the great Frederick has spoken of himself, and pointed out his faults with as much impartiality as any future historian of candour could possibly do.

His Majesty, it appears, took the trouble of transcribing this work two different times. We may therefore well presume, considering the accuracy which distinguishes his style, and the prodigious depth of his understanding, that this will not be one of the least glorious of his works.

The second is entitled Interesting Memoirs on the events which passed between the peace concluded at Hubertsbourg, till the war of 1778.

The third is a History of this War, which, though attended with no remarkable events, is likely to interest the learned world, by having been recorded by so masterly a pen.

The fourth is the Palladium, a common Episode, in the style of the Pucelle, or the satire of O—.

The fifth is an Aecount of the Partition of Poland, a poem, ornamented with figures, which his Majesty had ordered to be prepared, and the plates of which were actually ready before his death.

The sixth is a Collection of Interesting Letters by M. D'Alembert, on different subjects of Police, Philosophy, and Theology. Little sinister craft had suggested the prudence of destroying those letters on the King's death, and they were in consequence committed to the flames.—But the originals have fortunately been since found at the palace of Potzdam, and the public have now a prospect of being gratified with the perusal of them.

A thief having been condemned to be hanged, was on his way to the gallows, in a cart, as is the custom in Paris. When near the place of execution, the cart broke down, and the thief, who was nimble, profited by the confusion which this event occasioned, to steal away among the crowd: but the guards pursued him, and he was near being taken; when a Lady in her carriage, seeing the perilous situation of the unfortunate wretch, was induced, through compassion, to save him. She opened the door of her carriage, permitted him to get in, and ordered her coachman to drive as quick as he could. When they were about two miles from the city, she made this miserable wretch descend, and gave him some money, recommending him to be a more honest man in future, and bid him remember the danger that he had just escaped; which he promised in the most fervent manner to observe. But what was the astonishment of the Lady, when she arrived at her house, to find that the villain, whom she had taken into her carriage, and ordered him to stoop, in order that he should not be perceived, had profited by the convenience of his position, and actually stole the Lady's buckles.

[illegible] the Committee of the West India planters and merchants went up to [illegible] street, and had a long conference with the Minister. The Chairman presented to him their memorial, which is drawn up with great strength, and enumerates the various arguments adduced at the general meeting in favour of the proportionate reduction of the duty on rum. The jut of their requisition was, that the rum of the British West India islands should be put on the same footing with regard to the brandy of France that the wines of Portugal are to the wines of France; that is, that at all times the rum should pay but two-thirds of the duty on brandy.—This they considered as a very modest request, when the general oppression of the islands was considered.

Mr Pitt, after reading the memorial, asked them whether a reduction of 3 d. per gallon would give them satisfaction, which reduction he said would bring them to the relative state in which they stood in 1778? They said it would not—the reduction must be not less than 5 d. per gallon, in order to preserve the proportion of two-thirds; and they desired to know whether the Minister would agree to that reduction? He said he could not go farther decidedly than to promise them a reduction of 3 d. per gallon.

But he desired to know whether the Committee agreed with him in opinion, that for the purpose effectually of annihilating the smuggler, it would not be advisable to reduce the duty on brandy still lower than seven shillings? They said they had no objection to his reducing the duty on brandy still lower, if he would agree to the indispensible condition of preserving the constant proportion which they required between rum and brandy. The Minister laboured hard to draw from them a direct unqualified opinion, that a further reduction of duty would be wise; but this they very peremptorily refused.

After a long conversation the Committee expressed their uneasiness that they were to withdraw without having received a more explicit answer. Mr Pitt begged them not to consider his answer to their requisition as final; he confessed it was his opinion, that restoring them to the relative state in which they stood in 1778, would secure them in the competition with France; but as they differed with him in opinion, he would consider it maturely, and he begged to see them again in a fortnight.

PROLOGUE,

Spoken by W. FECTOR, Esq;

At his private Theatre in DOVER, before a numerous and respectable Audience, on Dec. 14, 1786.

Written by W. GILLUM, Esq;

PROLOGUES to please—each various taste should hit,
Should strike at once—the lordling—and the cit;
'Tis Satire's task to root the sprouting weeds
Which rise so thick—and choak distinction's seeds;
For honours now descend on high and low
In general bounty—like a fall of snow.
The busy barber courts the public stare,
And find this title—*fits him to a hair*—
Sir Plumb—the grocer—with his knighthood big—
For his neglected shop—*cares not a fig*;
What tho' the butcher can't obtain the prize—
Yet in his mind—sublimer prospects rise—
E'en now in thought he quits his greasy stand—
And shines a baronet—with his *bloody hand*.
Well may neglected Merit wave her claim—
When each ambitious blockhead seeks a name;
The *Northern Hero*—e'en that title dwindles;
If giv'n to Prussia, and to him that *swindles*—
He that to Glory's loftiest heights did soar—
Frederick is dead!—but is his fame no more?
Long shall it flourish in each gallant breast,
There shall his great example be impress'd.
But other conquests now attract our arms—
*Laurels* may tempt—but *partridges* have charms—
With joy—the sportsman's valiant deeds we trace,
His trophies rising—in each *slaughter'd brace*—
Then like the *Cannibal*—the foe he'll treat,
Proving he only *vanquishes* to *eat*.
The conquering fair—although no blood she spill—
Is by Dame Nature—*qualified to kill*—
*Untax'd* on every manor she may shoot—
And who shall dare—her *licence* to dispute?
The wit, the beau, the pedant, and the fot,
Nay even *sportsmen* feel th'unerring shot—
Secure she ranges, unrestrain'd by fear;
*Gauze* guards the *front*—and *cork* protects the *rear*;
Pale Prudery with *Envy* bites her lip,
To view her rival—*in her world of tip*——
And while disdain is pictur'd in her face,
Contracts her virtues in a smaller space.
Now for *ourselves*—whom warmest hopes enflame
Each breast with ardor—seeks the *road to fame*;
Where should some *critic robber* dare approach,
(Altho' no *blunderbuss* protects *our* coach);
If from *your candour* we are not debarr'd,
This *little stage* can never want a *guard*.
Into *your hands* the *reins* are safely thrown;
And e'en the *whip of censure* is your own;
Gently apply its *lash* to *each* young steed,
And do not *cut us till you make us bleed*.

☞ At this seasaon Dr STEERS's OPODELDOC is recommended to the use of families, and in particular to those that have the care of children, being the best application for chilblains in the hands and feet, which it removes very speedily, and, if used in time, will prevent their breaking; it is equally efficacious in the rheumatism, and in bruises, sprains, and other external complaints. Sold by H. Steers, at No. 10, Old Bond street, and by F. Newbery, No. 45, St Paul's Church Yard, five doors from the corner of Cheapside, London, in bottles of one size only, price 1 s. 9 d each, and 5d. stamp duty; also by Messrs Husband, Elder, and Co. Edinburgh.

N. B. As a perfect security against counterfeits, all purchasers are requested to observe, that the name of F. NEWBERY is engraved in all the stamps, by favour of the Commissioners of the Stamp Office, the imitation of which will be a capital offence.

*To the Printer of the Caledonian Mercury.*

SIR,

AS the enlarging of the Harbour of Leith has produced a general theme for speculation, the following circumstances will probably not disagree with the propriety of such a beneficial and necessary undertaking. The rivers above the harbour, which have been intensely froze for this some time past, by the late thaw suddenly broke up yesterday, and consequently overflowing the dam-heads, made a rapid progress down. This occasioned much distress, and seemed to threaten devastation to most of the shipping. Now, as this harbour is universally known for its contractedness, part of the foreign traders, in the winter season, commonly lie opposite the Coal-hill; and any vacancy is always filled up with smaller vessels loaded with coals, which, indeed, renders that part of the harbour totally confused. Upon appearance of the above imminent danger, all hands were indefatigably employed in securing the vessels, by putting out additional ropes: Yet, notwithstanding this, some deep-loaded vessels broke their moorings, and drove with great violence against each other, carrying away bolsprits, booms, &c. besides crushing to pieces small boats which happened to be in their way; and one deep-loaded sloop (with coals) after being beat about by the impetuosity of the ice and tide, at last sunk in the harbour; but, from the unwearied exertions of the sailors, fresh ropes being again got out, perfect safety was restored to the other vessels, with no further damage. Happily no lives were lost at the above occasion.—It is sincerely to be wished, that some useful plan was finally adopted, and speedily put in execution, in order that these accidents may not be attended with such dreadful effects.

*Leith, Dec.* 28. A. SHIPMASTER.

EDINBURGH.

*Extract of a letter from London, Dec.* 25.

"It has been for some time reported, that the treaty forming with France originated, not with the Minister, but with a certain set of people, known by the name of the "K—g's Friends," who referred it to the Cabinet, from whence the Premier had it to carry into execution. However this may have been, is not, perhaps, so exactly known; but this much is said to be certain, that, in the late interviews he had with Mr Eden on the subject, his opinion was very unfavourable of many of the articles of the commercial treaty, and against it *in toto*. The real fact is, he did not find himself at all encouraged to lay it before Parliament, and he spoke his mind where it was the least expected.

"The Administration, as it is very natural to suppose, were not a little alarmed on the occasion. It was proposed to have such articles as were thought exceptionable reconsidered; and Mr Eden, who came home in full triumph, as one who had finished his labours, and only waited for the reward of his services, has actually been sent back to Paris, in order to have the treaty amended and reconsidered.

"In case the whole can be reconciled to Mr Pitt's mind, there is no reason to suppose he will go out of office, though his resignation is much talked of. But this will remain entirely at his own option.

cabinet do not want to get rid of him. Even Lord H———y, who, however ſtrange it may appear, is already looked to as the Miniſter in caſe of diſtreſs, would not be found more ready to carry their Reſolutions into execution."

Alexander Roſe, Eſq; Grantſwood, Virginia, died the 17th July laſt. His friends and relations will pleaſe accept of this notice of his death.

Died at Barcelona, on the 30th November laſt, Captain Robert Robb, late of the 80th, or Royal Edinburgh regiment.

On Saturday laſt, died at his houſe in Briſtoſtreet, Mr Thomas Clark, much and ſincerely regretted.

On Saturday laſt died at Paiſley, Miſs Mary Paterſon, daughter of Robert Paterſon, Eſq; of Craigton, deceaſed.

Laſt night, four more areas for building ſhops and houſes on the South Bridge, were ſold. The firſt, being marked No. 7. on the plan, went off at *Two Thouſand One Hundred and Forty-five Pounds.* No bidders appearing for No. 8. and 9. which were reſpectively ſet up at Two Thouſand Pounds, No. 10. being the corner lot next the Cowgate, was expoſed, and went off at *Two Thouſand Four Hundred and Seventy-five Pounds.* No. 9. was afterwards ſold for the upſet Price of *Two Thouſand Pounds*, and No. 8. it is ſuppoſed, will not remain long in the market. Total Sales of Nine Areas, *Twenty Thouſand Three Hundred and Thirty Pounds.*

Tueſday evening, through the careleſſneſs of a ſervant throwing the live ſnuff of a candle among the refuſe of ſome lint and tow, a very extenſive manufactory at Sciennes, in the neighbourhood of this city, was put in the utmoſt danger. Happily the accident was diſcovered before the men had entirely diſmiſſed from their work. By their good conduct, and extraordinary exertions, aſſiſted by the neighbourhood, and a fire engine, the flames were got confined to the work-ſhop where the fire began. A great quantity of dreſſed lint had luckily been removed from the ſhop to another place, previous to the accident, ſo that it is hoped the damage ſuſtained will not be ſo conſiderable as was at firſt apprehended.

We hear, that the money given by the city of Edinburgh, by the Sun fire-office, and by the Edinburgh Friendly Inſurance-office, as a reward to the workmen who were moſt active in extinguiſhing the alarming fire which lately happened in Beſs-Wynd, will be divided amongſt them to-morrow, at eleven o'clock, in the Council Chamber.

Yeſterday, the Preſbytery of Edinburgh met here, the Rev. Mr William Simpſon, Moderator. There was laid before the Preſbytery a letter addreſſed to the Moderator from the Rev. Mr John Logan, ſecond miniſter of the pariſh of South Leith, purporting, that as his health was very much impaired, he found himſelf unable any longer to perform the parochial duties of his office, and therefore hoped the Preſbytery would accept of his reſignation. The letter being read, a motion was made, that the Preſbytery ſhould immediately accept of Mr Logan's demiſſion, and declare his charge vacant. After a few words, by way of converſation among ſome of the members, the motion was unanimouſly agreed to, and Dr Johnſtone of North Leith appointed to preach in South Leith Church on Sunday forenoon, and intimate to the congregation the vacancy occaſioned by Mr Logan's reſignation. This matter has long been the ſubject of converſation as well as correſpondence. Mr Logan is at preſent in London, where he has reſided ſince he found it neceſſary, on account of his health, to retire from the fatigues of his miniſterial functions. Many overtures have paſſed between him and his pariſhioners. But we underſtand every thing is now ſettled amicably between him and them, and that they have entered into a bond to pay him a certain ſum annually during his life. We likewiſe underſtand, that Mr Dickſon, who has officiated for Mr Logan, ſince his abſence, will be his ſucceſſor in office. The patronage of the ſecond charge of South Leith, is in the Traffickers and Corporations. That ſo numerous a body of men ſhould be unanimous in the object of their choice, which we hear they are upon the preſent occaſion, reflects equal honour upon themſelves and the young Gentleman who has for ſome time miniſtered among them.

At this meeting of Preſbytery, the Rev. Mr Kemp produced and read very long and elaborate reaſons of diſſent, in name of himſelf, and a number of other members of Preſbytery, againſt all the ſentences of Preſbytery reſpecting the preſentation and call in favour of Mr William Martin miniſter of Gargunnock, to be miniſter of the New Grayfriars pariſh in this city. They were ordered to be recorded in the books of Preſbytery.

In conſequence of the late combination among the journeymen tailors of Edinburgh, proſecutions have been raiſed againſt the ringleaders; and it appearing in the courſe of the inveſtigation, that the maſter tailors had been in a great meaſure the cauſe of the combination, by giving to ſome of their beſt hands a trifle above the regulated wages, upwards of thirty maſter tailors were on Tueſday laſt fined by the Magiſtrates for this their tranſgreſſion; and we hear that it is determined ſtrictly to enforce the law againſt both maſters and journeymen, in all time coming.

Monday, a perſon calling himſelf a ſtudent of medicine, came to the ſhop of a hardware merchant in Edinburgh, bought two gold watches, preſented a bill upon London for L. 160, and deſired they would give him the change after taking payment for the watches. As there were ſome ſuſpicious circumſtances, the gentleman in the ſhop refuſed to take the bill, unleſs it was indorſed by ſome gentleman he knew; upon which the perſon went away, and returned with the name of one of the Profeſſors of the Univerſity upon the back of it. Suſpicions ſtill ariſing, the ſhopkeeper ſent to the Profeſſor, when it turned out to be a forgery, as he was totally ignorant of the tranſaction. The holder of the bill was carried before the Magiſtrates, who committed him to priſon. He is ſaid to be an Iriſhman, not a ſtudent.

We hear from the weſt country, that Mr Garden, commander of the Juſtice Cuſtomhouſe hulk, has ſeized in concealments at the Mull of Galloway, 45 boxes of tea: that the Exciſe officers have ſeized in concealments, at the ſame place, 40 boxes more of tea; and that a ſmall cutter belonging to Captain James Hamilton of the Cuſtoms has ſeized near to the Rock of Iſla, near Ballentrae, 30 boxes of tea, and the boat in which he found the ſame, in all 114 boxes; ſo that including the cargo of tea ſeized by Captain Crawford, mentioned in our laſt paper, which conſiſted of 89 boxes, there have been ſeized from the ſmugglers on the weſt coaſt, within theſe few days, 203 boxes of fine tea.

Two of his Majeſty's cutters have juſt brought into the Humber a large Dutch veſſel, laden with fire-arms and other prohibited merchandize, taken off the Spurn.

We hear from Hull, that 36 ſail of veſſels are fitting out there for the enſuing whale fiſhery.

The Suſannah, Cameron, from Clyde to Rotterdam, with tobacco, is ſtranded on the coaſt of Holland; the crew and cargo ſaved.

The Boyd, Boyd, is arrived at Virginia, from Clyde.

Jeanie, M'Gill, at Virginia, from France.

Recovery, Baxter, at Rotterdam from Clyde.

Virginia, Scott, at Portſmouth, from Maryland.

Molly, ———, at Havre de Grace, from Virginia.

A B C, Newman, at London, from Virginia.

The patriotic Mr Knox, to whom the public is indebted for much ſolid and intereſting information upon the ſubject of the Scotch fiſheries, arrived at Aberdeen on Friday laſt, after a tour thro' the Highlands, iſlands, and northern coaſt.

Saturday laſt, the King's College and Univerſity of Aberdeen conferred the degree of Doctor of Medicine on Dr Thomas Hall, a ſurgeon of diſtinguiſhed reputation, in the county of Cornwall.

We are informed, that the Preſbytery of Sky, at their meeting on the 8th of December current, having taken into conſideration the plan of Union of the King's and Mariſchal Colleges, contained in the outlines of the ſame publiſhed by the latter, with the objections made to that union by the Principal and a great majority of the Profeſſors of King's College, did *unanimouſly* agree in opinion, that the ſaid union ought not to take place.

On Friday laſt, a young man was brought to Aberdeen by the county-conſtables, accuſed of cutting young trees for ſtaves or walking ſticks. A fine aſh-ſhoot being diſcovered in his hands upon a Sunday in the Kirk yard, and not giving a ſatisfactory account how he came by it, he was brought before a Juſtice of Peace, and upon his confeſſion of the fact, he was allowed to enliſt in a regiment of foot as a ſoldier, rather than ſuffer the legal puniſhment of twenty pounds ſterling of fine, or ſix months impriſonment——This ſhould be a caution to all country people, for preſervation of planting, and not to incur the penalty and puniſhment directed by the act of Parliament.

On Saturday laſt, a Farmer was convicted before the Magiſtrates of Aberdeen, of galloping his horſe through the ſtreets of that Burgh, to the imminent [illegible] and ordained to be impriſoned for four days. We hope this example will put a ſtop to a practice, which is but too common, and from which fatal conſequences often enſue.

Laſt week two ſiſters named Little, were committed to Dumfries jail, to ſtand trial for ſtealing cloats and other houſehold articles.

Laſt Saturday evening, a ſhopkeeper above the Croſs, Glaſgow, having occaſion to leave his ſhop for a ſhort time, ſhut the door, but left the glaſs part of it a little open at the top, that ſome ſmoke might get out. In his abſence, ſome villains let down the glaſs, went over the door, and carried of three webs of cloth. Many thefts, ſimilar to this one, have been of late committed in Glaſgow, and the perpetrators have not as yet been detected.

On Thurſday next, the 4th *proximo*, there is to be an ASSEMBLY at LEITH, beginning at Six o'clock in the evening.

*Extract of a letter from Leven, Dec. 27.*

"The Nathaniel and Mary, George Betts maſter, loaded with wheat from Yarmouth, was this morning, when taking the harbour, having ſprung a leak at ſea, wrecked upon a rock at the entrance. It is feared ſhip and cargo will be much damaged."

*To the Printer of the Caledonian Mercury.*

SIR,

THERE are many *viſionaries* in the world beſides myſelf, who adventure their money in Lotteries, to the prejudice, if not to the ruin of their future proſpects in life; and as the enſuing State Lottery is approaching, the publiſhing the following authentic narrative might perhaps be of ſome ſervice to that numerous tribe.

Bred to a genteel profeſſion, though born to no fortune, I early imbibed notions of a pleaſurable life, in the many vacant hours from buſineſs, which I reſolved to carry into execution ſo ſoon as the ſtate of my finances would allow. I had, however, but ſmall hopes of putting theſe on a reſpectable foot, at leaſt for ſome time, from the profits of my profeſſion; as, notwithſtanding all the œconomy I could practiſe, I found I could do little more than (as the ſaying is) make the two ends of the year meet.

The Lottery held forth the ſpeedieſt means of enabling me to put my favourite ſchemes of pleaſure in execution; and, as "the luſt of wealth can ne-"ver bear delay," I agreed, at the ſolicitation of an acquaintance, to riſk the few pounds I had ſcraped together, in a conjunct adventure with him in the *Wheel of Fortune*.——With this view, I called at the lottery-office for *a ſcheme*, which I peruſed with emotions of joy and hope, as the key to my future greatneſs. It was flattering to one like me, who, not having a wiſh to find it deluſive, did not examine it narrowly; holding forth a probability of realizing a fortune in a moment for the riſk of a trifle, there being two prizes of 20,000 l. three of 10,000 l. five of 5000 l. beſides a great many others of leſs value,—not two blanks to a prize;—and, at the foot of all, was a liſt of the numerous capital prizes, ſold at the office in former Lotteries.

My imagination being overheated with what appeared to me ſuch a promiſing proſpect, I could not be at eaſe until our ſhares were purchaſed; and my fellow-adventurer having devolved the management of the whole on me, I laid out our joint ſtock as judiciouſly as I could, ſome weeks before the commencement of the drawing, for which I waited with the moſt anxiety, impatience, and ſuſpence.—Not a day paſſed, but I *calculated* and *re-calculated* the amount of my future fortune *to ariſe* from the different capital prizes; and I *ſchemed* and *conſidered* every night on my pillow the ſphere of life in which I was to move, *as directed by the ſeveral contingencies of fortune.*

In one view of my expectancy, finding I would be in poſſeſſion of as much money as would make a purchaſe of 4 or 500 l. a-year, my ambition took fire at the proſpect,—In my reveries, I already *figured* as a Juſtice of the Peace at a Quarter-Seſſions,—and, if I accidentally overheard the words *Landed Intereſt*, I would inſenſibly ſtop all at once, as if materially concerned in the ſubject. But, leſt fortune ſhould not prove ſo propitious, I had chalked out a life of retirement in a part of the country free from the buſtle of the noiſy world, where I might live *ſnug* and comfortably, upon 100 l. or 50 l. a-year, till a more fortunate adventure ſhould put me in a condition to appear with that eclat I had ſo much at heart. In ſhort, I had formed rules of life, to regulate any fortune which might come up in the wheel from 50 l. to 500 l. a-year, any thing below the leaſt of which appeared unworthy of attention, and as ſuch had never entered into my *calculations.*—I have now, however, to regret, that I was ſo little acquainted with the *doctrine of chances*, which would have taught me, that the chance to gain any prize above 20 l. was more than *one hundred to one* againſt me.

But to proceed:—The darling ſubject which ſo much ingroſſed my thoughts all day, had naturally an effect upon my dreams at night.—Theſe, I muſt own, ſo long as they continued, were propitious; but, when my ſenſes returned, I was plunged into a ſtate of the greater diſcontent and diſappointment, that I had before fancied myſelf a ſharer of the 20,000 l. prize.

From the time I had put myſelf in fortune's way, my mind was alienated more and more daily from buſineſs; and I not only *anticipated*, but, by a kind of involuntary impulſe, *already began to enjoy*, the pleaſurable life I had chalked out. Having naturally a reliſh for ſociety, I was led to the play-houſe, from thence to a tavern, &c. where I ſpent more than the profits of my buſineſs could well afford, without the leaſt reflection, except that it was but a mere trifle to my future proſpects.

The drawing, for which I had waited ſo impatiently, at laſt began. From this period, I kept at home as much as poſſible, that I might be in the way to get the earlieſt intelligence of my ſucceſs; and every rap at the door made me ſtartle, as thinking it brought information of my fate. A letter from the office at laſt appeared; [illegible] while I paid [illegible] impatience, hope, and fear, [illegible] depicted on my whole frame. I tore it open, with a trembling hand;—but, to my utter diſappointment and mortification, a frightful *blank* ſtared me in the face. This quite unhinged me for a moment, as well as all my *calculations*; for, the unlucky *blank* was the higheſt of our ſhares, on which we had placed our greateſt dependence. As we had ſtill other ſhares in the wheel, however, I did not loſe hope, but ſet to work to *new-model my calculations and ſchemes of life*, which, notwithſtanding of this derangement, were ſtill far from wearing an unpromiſing aſpect *on paper.* In the courſe of a month thereafter, I met with nothing but diſappointments and trouble, as all our tickets, except one, turned up blanks in that ſpace, and conſequently made ſeveral *new calculations* neceſſary. On that one centered all my hopes, which were ſtill pretty ſanguine, as the drawing was within a few days of ending, and ſeveral capital prizes remained in the wheel.—Tickets and ſhares got up to four times their original value, and I could have diſpoſed of our remaining one to good advantage, had not the hope of its coming up a capital prize prevented;—but, to crown my diſappointment, it was alſo drawn a blank on the laſt day of drawing.——This put an end to my ambitious views, and brought me to reaſon and reflection, which pointed out that I would be far better employed in attending my buſineſs, where I might earn a *certain* competency, than by riſking my money, and giving myſelf trouble in the purſuit of a very *unequal chance* and *uncertain proſpect* of riches in a Lottery. I am, Sir, your humble ſervant, J. S.

*Kirriemuir, 16th December* 1786.

The following is a ſtate of the Thermometer ſince our laſt:

| | | | THERMOMETER. |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Tueſday, Dec.* 26. | 8 o'clock, | A. M. | 32 |
| | 11 —— | P. M. | 36 |
| *Wedneſday,* — 27. | 8 —— | A. M. | 42 |
| | 8 —— | P. M. | 39 |
| *Thurſday,* — 28. | 8 —— | A. M. | 39 |

ARRIVED AT LEITH,

Dec. 26. Adventure, Bevridge, from Rotterdam, with goods.
Mercury, Barr, from Berwick, with grain.
27. Friendſhip, Anderſon, from Berwick, with ditto.
Cerer, Mather, from Ipſwich, with ditto.
Induſtry, Pairt, from Berwick, with ditto.
John and Mary, Davidſon, from Wiſbeach, with ditto.
Margaret, Heggan, from Alloa, with whiſky.
28. Temple, Bridges, from Campvere, with goods.
Five ſloops with coals.

SAILED,

Jean, Barr, for Alemouth, with goods.
Summers Tapp, for London, with ditto.

ARRIVED AT GREENOCK,

Dec. 23. Jean and Mary, Bogg, from Memel, with timber.
25. Sebaſtis, M'Kellar, from Charleſtown, with tobacco.
Thomſon, Ferguſon, from Dungarven, with barley.
Nancy, Kerr, from Strangford, with ditto.
Sally, Black, from Youghall, with ditto.
Betty, Leitch, from Sligo, with goods.
America, Brown, from Waterford, in ballaſt.
Briget and Mary, Boar, from Dungarven, with barley.
Good Intent, Dolin, from Waterford, with goods.
Hopewell, Gray, from Liverpool, with ditto.
Chriſtian and Janet, Ketter, from Belfaſt, with ditto.

SAILED,

Dec. 18. Richard, Gibbons, for Waterford, with tobacco.
19. Jeany, Martin, for Charleſtown, with goods.
Lucretia, Livingſton, for Tabacco, with ditto.
Caſtleſemple, Buchanan, for Jamaica, with ditto.
Kingſton, Tarbet, for St Vincent's, with ditto.
Clyde, Douglas, for St Kitt's, with ditto.
Greenock, M'Kinlay, for Belfaſt, with ditto.
Betty and Polly, Ritchie, for Oſtend, with tobacco.
Margaret, Thomas, from Drogheda, with ditto.
20. Polly, M'Clenachan, for Barbadoes, with ditto.
23. John, Leitch, for Belfaſt, with ditto.
Janet, M'Kinlay, for Dublin, with ditto.
Three Brothers, Lawdon, for Newry, with ditto.
Briget, Hally, for Belfaſt, with ditto.
Janet, Doran, for Liverpool, with ditto.
24. Speedwell Cutter, Wallace, on a cruize.
Elizabeth, Fiſh, for Jamaica, with goods.
Elephant, Crawford, for Virginia, with ditto.
Rebecca, Tyre, for Dominica, with ditto.

## COCK-FIGHTING.

THAT there is a maine of Cocks to be fought, at Michael Henderſon's pit, Grafsmarket, on Monday the 1ſt day of the year 1787, between two gentlemen in the neighbourhood, for Five Guineas the battle, and Ten Guineas the odd. To begin at ten o'clock before noon.

On Tueſday, a Welch Maine of Sixteen Cocks, for Sixteen Guineas, and a maine for Two Pair of Boots, the ſame day, at 1 l. 4 s. each pair.

To begin at ten o'clock forenoon.

## GENERAL POST-OFFICE,

Edinburgh, *Dec.* 28. 1786.

NOTICE is hereby given, That on account of the alteration in the Arrivals of the LONDON POST at Edinburgh, it is found neceſſary to alter the diſpatch of the Poſt from thence, to all parts beyond Aberdeen, from Wedneſday to *Thurſday* night, to take place after the 5th day of January next, when the weekly diſpatches to thoſe parts will be on *Mondays*, *Thurſdays*, and *Saturdays*, at EIGHT at night, and the arrivals on the ſame days in the Morning.

It is further notified, That from the ſaid 5th day of January there will be a SEVENTH DAYS POST in the Week, between Edinburgh and the following Towns, upon the great Weſt and North Roads, viz.

| WEST. | NORTH. |
|---|---|
| Linlithgow, | North Queenſferry, |
| Falkirk, | Inverkeithing, |
| Kilſyth, | Kinroſs, |
| Kirkintulloch, | Perth, |
| Glaſgow, | Dundee, |
| Paiſley, | Arbroath, |
| Renfrew, | Montroſe, |
| Port-Glaſgow,—And | Bervie, |
| Greenock. | Stonehaven,—And |
| | Aberdeen. |

By Order of the Poſtmaſter General,

DAVID ROSS, Sec.

THOSE who have claims on the Eſtate of the late Thomas Ferguſſon, Eſq; of Calcutta, who died in the Eaſt Indies in May 1783, will pleaſe give in the ſame to Mr Downey at Preſtonpans, within 40 days from this date.

Preſtonpans, 28th December 1786.

Not to be repeated.

## A SHOP BROKE.

*Sheriff-Clerk's Office, Edinburgh, Dec.* 28. 1786.

BETWEEN Sunday night and Monday morning laſt, a Hardware Shop here was broke into, and the following articles carried off: A Lady's Gold Watch, enamelled back, figure offering up a gift to Hymen—One large plain Gold Watch, capt and jewelled—One ſmall ſecond-hand Gold Watch; maker's name on theſe three *J. J. Jackſon, London*—One ſmall ſingle caſed Watch, name [illegible] Kings—Silver Watch, name [illegible] Severnſtruk with pearl Breaſt Pins and Locket [illegible] let knee and ſtock Buckles—Two hair devices—A caſe of Lancets, maker's name *Levigne.* All the [illegible] pins, buckets, and ſet buckles are marked on the [illegible] ſide with a ſharp nail.—The initials of the ſhop mark, and the ſelling price plain figures, ſo that if any attempt is made to eraſe any of theſe marks, it will eaſily be noticed.

Whoever will give ſuch information within three months from this date, to William Scott, Procurator Fiſcal of this county, as ſhall lead to a diſcovery of the perſon or perſons who committed the above theft, ſhall upon conviction of the offender or offenders, receive a reward of TWENTY GUINEAS, and the informer's name, if required, concealed.

WILLIAM SCOTT, Procurator Fiſcal.

N. B. If any of the above articles are offered to ſale, it is requeſted they may be ſtopt, and the perſon offering them detained, till notice is given as above, for which a handſome reward will be given, beſides all charges paid.

## Inn and Stabling in Edinburgh, to Let.

TO be LET, for any number of years that can be agreed on, after Whitſunday 1787,

That Commodious and well-frequented INN, with the ſtables at the back thereof, lying at the head of the Cowgate, Edinburgh, ſometime poſſeſſed by the deceaſed Hugh Cameron, and preſently by Mr Edward Atkinſon.

For particulars, apply to Richard Prentice, Solicitor at Law, Herriot's Bridge.

## General Meeting

Of the CREDITORS of ROBERT LAIDLAW, Merchant in Edinburgh.

THAT at a meeting of ſaid Creditors, called by advertiſement in the Edinburgh news-papers, in conſequence of an act or order of the Court of Seſſion, and held within the Old Exchange Coffeehouſe, upon the 23d of December curt. John King accomptant in Edinburgh was choſen to be interim-factor upon ſaid ſequeſtrated eſtate, and was directed to call a general meeting of the whole creditors of the ſaid Robert Laidlaw, to be held day and place after ſpecified, for the purpoſe of chuſing a truſtee or truſtees, for the management of the bankrupt's eſtate; and the ſaid John King having, in terms of the act of Parliament, applied to the Sheriff-depute of Edinburgh and his ſubſtitute, the ſaid ſheriff, upon the 27th December 1786, appointed each Friday in the four ſucceeding weeks, at one o'clock afternoon, in the Sheriff Clerk's Office, Edinburgh, for the public examination of the bankrupt and his family, or others acquainted with his buſineſs, in terms of the act of Parliament.

The ſaid John King, therefore, in terms of the ſaid act, hereby intimates to all and ſundry creditors of the ſaid Robert Laidlaw, that the foreſaid ſequeſtration took place on the 14th December 1786; and that a general meeting of his creditors is to be held upon Friday the 9th of February next, in the Old Exchange Coffeehouſe, at one o'clock afternoon, for the purpoſe of chuſing a truſtee or truſtees for the management of ſaid eſtate: As alſo, that the ſaid Sheriff has appointed each Friday in the four ſucceeding weeks, at one o'clock afternoon, in the Sheriff Clerk's Office, Edinburgh, for the public examination of the bankrupt and his family, and others acquainted with his buſineſs, in terms of the ſaid act of Parliament; at which diets of examination, the whole creditors of the ſaid Robert Laidlaw are hereby warned and invited to attend.

## GROWING TIMBER

TO be SOLD by public roup, at Balwill, in Stirlingſhire, on Tueſday the 9th day of January 1787.

It conſiſts of a large quantity of Oak, Aſh, Beech, Elm, and Plane. The firſt fit for ſhip-building, and the whole well grown.

Balwill is upon the military road between Dunbarton and Stirling, and is equally diſtant from each. The Timber will be put up in lots of 10 l. to 50 l. value, and the diſpoſition lots will be ſhown by applying at Balwill after the 2[illegible] [illegible]

29th *December* 1786.

## NOTICE

To the CREDITORS of the deceased JAMES FORREST, late Merchant in Grassmarket, Edinburgh, and to his DEBTORS.

THE said James Forrest having died without making a proper arrangement for payment of his debts, a meeting of his Creditors is requested at the Exchange Coffeehouse on Wednesday next, at one o'clock, in order to concert proper measures for their security and payment.

And as no person is yet authorised to receive and discharge the debts due to the estate of Mr Forrest, *the Debtors will take notice*, that any payments they make will be ineffectual, until such appointment takes place, and of which public intimation will be given.

## NOTICE

To the HERITORS of the Parish of BOTHWELL, and shire of Lanark.

IN the process for localling the stipend lately modified to the minister of that parish, presently depending before Lord Hailes, his Lordship pronounced the following interlocutor:

*Edin. Dec.* 16. 1786.

"The Lord Ordinary of new ordains the haill heritors "who have not yet produced rights to the teinds of their "lands within the parish, to lodge the same in the clerk's "hands (if they any have) betwixt and the 20th of January "next; with certification, that they will not be received "after that day, but upon payment of the expence hitherto incurred in the locality; and ordains the common agent to intimate this order in the Edinburgh and Glasgow "news-papers." In obedience to the above appointment the common agent gives this notice.

## First Notice—First Term.

IN the Process of Ranking and Sale at the instance of Misses Mary, Frances, and Jane-Harriot Cockburns, daughters of Sir James Cockburn Bart. against Sir James Douglas of Springwoodpark, Bart. and others, the heirs or creditors of the deceased Henry Douglas of Friershaw, the Lord Montboddo, Ordinary, by his interlocutor, dated the 20th December 1786, nominated Lord Alva, of course, to rank the creditors; and assigned the 25th day of January next, as the first term, for the creditors producing their grounds of debt, rights, and diligences, competent to them against the bankrupt or his estate, with certification as in a reduction and improbation; and appointed this notice to be given, for behoof of all concerned. H. S. CALLENDER, Clerk.

## Third Notice—First Term.

IN the process of ranking and sale, William Ferguson, Esq; of Raith, with concourse of his Majesty's Advocate, against Alexander Hamilton, now in America, eldest son and heir of the deceased John Hamilton writer in Mauchline and his creditors, the Lord Hailes, Ordinary thereto, by his interlocutor, of date the 9th December 1786, nominated the Lord Rockville of course, to rank the whole creditors of the bankrupt, and assigned the 20th of January next, for the whole creditors to produce all their claims, rights, and diligences competent to them respectively against the bankrupt or his estate, and that for the *first term*; with certification as in a reduction and improbation, and appointed this notice thereof, so as the same may come to the knowledge of all concerned. H. S. CALLENDER Clerk.

## Sale of Lands in Lanarkshire,

*ADJOURNED.*

TO BE SOLD,

THE LANDS of BUSHELHEAD and HOWGATE, lying in the parish of Carluke and sheriffdom of Lanark.

Bushelhead Lands contain about 20½ acres of old croft-grounds, all inclosed, and about 87 acres of outfield;—parted there belong them in commonry, one-fourth knows, or about acres; and one-third part of stonny Braidwood excellent Lime-craig. The three-eight parts of an and as they contain lime and several of an excellent soil, earth, they are capable of high improvement of strong moss.

The lands of Bushelhead for some years past, been in the hands of the proprietor, but 50l. Sterling yearly offered by an undoubted tenant, for a 19 years tack, so that the lands will be sold without or without a tack as a purchaser may incline. They hold of a subject-superior, and pay of public burdens about 2 l. Sterling.—If not sold privately against Monday the 15th January next, they will be set for one year's tack.

For further particulars apply to William Harvie of Broundie, one of the trustees for the Creditors of Samuel Forrest of Bushelhead, who will show the title-deeds, and is empowered to receive offers, and conclude a private bargain. Samuel and John Forrests at Bushelhead, will show the grounds, which contain a very thick seam of iron-ore.

The lands of Howgate adjoin to the above, and contain about 10 acres old croft, and about 30 acres outfield, with a little neat orchard, One-eight part of Braidwood Woods, and one-eight part of Lime-craig, &c.

"SIR, *Tolzey, Bristol, Oct.* 5. 1786.

WE have the pleasure to inform you of the cure of Captain John Rogers of the ship Thomas of Hall, in the county of Cornwall, whose disorder, of the scorbutic kind, appeared in large blotches all over his body, attended with the disagreeable and alarming circumstance of an ulcer, as large as half a crown, which formed itself over his left eye. In short, his complaint was increasing so rapidly, that, when he began your Drops, he found himself, in his own words, "going very fast." Yet, in the course of twelve bottles, by the blessing of God, every symptom left him.

"He desired we would communicate the circumstance for the good of others; which, *being eye-witnesses of the fact*, we readily complied with.

"A. BROWNE & SON."

To Mr Hayman, Marlborough Street, London.

*Hamworthy, opposite Poole, Dorsetshire, Dec.* 11. 1786.

"SIR,

"HAVING been through a course of your Drops with success, and wishing to point out the same relief to others, I am impelled to send you this for publication.

"For the last five years I was severely afflicted with the inward and outward piles, arising, I apprehend, from a scorbutic habit, to which I was very subject in my youth; they frequently discharged great quantities of blood, and tormented me exceedingly.

"Thus situated, I had recourse to your Drops, the very first bottle of which gave me ease; and I am happy to confess, that, by a continuance of seven more, my complaint entirely left me. I further declare, in justice to your preparation, that my health at the present moment is, in all respects, better than for many years past.

"I am, Sir,

"Your very humble servant,

ROBERT HARVEY."

To Mr HAYMAN, London.

HAYMAN's MAREDANT's DROPS, are distinguished by having his name and residence, viz. "*I. HAY-MAN, Marlbro'-street*," engraved in the Government label, denominating the duty on each bottle, printed at the Stamp-Office by order of the Commissioners, to secure his property, and the health of the afflicted, against counterfeits; and thus labelled, they are sold price 5 s. 5 d. per bottle, by Mess. HUSBAND, ELDER, and CO. Edinburgh; Mr A. M'Donald, Glasgow; Mess. Morrison and Son, Perth; Mr R. Garden, Aberdeen; Mr A. Wylie, Dumfries; and by some licensed Vender of prepared Medicines in every town in Great Britain.

## JAMAICA and GRENADA RUM,

TO be SOLD by Auction at the warehouse of William Sibbald and Company, Merchants, Leith, upon Friday the 29th December, at eleven o'clock forenoon,

Sixty Puncheons of Rum in Bond.

ALSO

Thirty Bags of Fine Cotton, and

Ten Tons Fustick.

Samples may be seen at any time, by applying as above.

## A Farm in Roxburgh-shire to be Let.

THE Farm of WHITEHILL, as presently possessed by Robert Thomson, for such a number of years as shall be agreed on, and entered to at Whitsunday 1787.

This Farm consists of about 224 English acres inclosed and subdivided, and lies about two miles from the town of Kelso.

For further particulars, apply to Mr Græme, clerk to the signet, Edinburgh, or Mr Cranston at Plew Lands.

## Exchequer Chambers, Edinburgh,

18th December 1786.

TWO petitions having been presented to the Right Honourable the Barons of Exchequer in Scotland, severally praying for a gift of the estate of Thomas Nicolson, innholder at Midcalder in the county of Edinburgh, as fallen by his decease and bastardy into the hands of his Majesty; and it having been represented to their Lordships, that Mr Nicolson, some days before his death, had executed certain deeds, whereby he conveyed all his real and personal estates to William Young writer in Edinburgh, one of the petitioners, in trust, directing that, after payment of his debts and legacies, the residue of his real estate should be divided equally between John Macmurdoch merchant in and John Macmurdoch goldsmith in London, his son, and their heirs, executors, or assigns; and it having also been represented to their Lordships, that there is reason to doubt if either of these residuary legatees is now in existence; the Barons have ordered this advertisement for the information of the said Macmurdochs, if alive, or of their lawful heirs or executors, and of all others interested in the said Thomas Nicolson's succession, that they may direct appearance to be made for them in this Court.

## An Undertaker Wanted,

To Build an AQUÆDUCT BRIDGE for carrying the Borrowstounness Canal over Grange Burn, near Grangemouth.

THIS Bridge is to consist of one arch 30 feet span, and the arch to spring six feet from the top of the landstools or abutments. The landstools are to be seven feet high from the bottom of the foundation course, and the foundation course to project six inches beyond the rest of the building. The depth of the pend-stones are to be two feet, and the building above these to be 9½ feet to the top of the tracting path, so that the total height of the Bridge, exclusive of the parapet walls, will be 24 feet. The parapet walls above ditto are to be three feet high, and one foot thick, including the copestone, which is to project two inches over upon each side. The thickness of the landstools are to be seven feet each, exclusive of three counterforts from each, consisting of three feet more in length, and four feet thick, and these landstools and counterforts are to be raised to the height of the crown of the arches, therefore the length of the Bridge across the stream, exclusive of the wing wall, will be 50 feet. The Bridge is to have no sterling points. The breadth of the Bridge at the found up and down stream is to be 41 feet, exclusive of the projection of the foundation course, and to have a batter of six inches upon each side to the top of the tracking path, where the Bridge is to be 40 feet neat over the retaining walls. The building on the outside of the Bridge is to be four feet in thickness, next which there are to be 2 1-half feet in thickness of puddled earth, and on the inside of which there is to be 2 one-half feet of stone work next to the water in the aquæduct; so that the tracting path will be nine feet broad, before the pa- [illegible] 68.—The building and puddle is to be the same on the other side, [illegible] the breadth of the canal waterway on the bridge will be 25 feet wide at bottom; so that the thickness of the building and puddle at the crown of the arches will be 10 feet. For the whole length of the bridge across stream, there are to be laid six inches thickness of cement, as also for the whole breadth of the water way, and six inches more upon each side, to render the bridge perfectly water-tight, and the whole of the outside and inside of the building to be laid in the beds and joints of the stones for nine inches, with the best mortar that can be prepared from Puzzellana or Dutch Tarras, and the rest of the mortar to be made from the best lime-shells, fresh water-sand, and fresh water, and the whole to be run solid with this kind of mortar. The wing-walls are to be nine feet long each, built with very large ruble stones, and for six inches inward is to be laid with puzzellana or Dutch Tarras mortar.—These walls to be 3 one half feet thick at bottom, and to decrease in thickness to 1 one-half feet at top, which is three feet below the water-line, so their medium height will be 14 feet.

The Bridge is to be built with large stones from 10 to 15 inches thick, from 15 to 20 inches broad, in the bed head from 20 to 30 inches long, with bandstones of larger sizes, but none of them are to be hewen on the outside, only to be squared, laid in regular courses, having a droved draught round the beds and joints, and the beds and joints droved for at least a foot inwards, and full for that length.

Longannet quarry lies about two miles distant by water northward from the stance of the intended Bridge, by which stones can be brought in vessels to within a short distance of it, and the Polmont quarry lies about two miles distant from it on the south, from whence stones may be got by land carriage.

The plan, elevation, and section of the Bridge, are in the hands of Charles Sinclair at Snab, engineer for the Canal Company, who will give every further information that may be required by the people intending to be undertakers.

The Committee for the Canal require that such as chuse to undertake to build the Bridge, (and uphold it for seven years on security) will give in their lowest offers, directed to the Committee of the Borrowstounness Canal, on or before Tuesday the 23d January next; and by that day sennight, the Committee propose to fix with such persons whose offer shall be the lowest; it being understood that the Contractor they agree with, is to be of good character, experience, and ability in his profession, and to find sufficient security for the execution of the work.

*Borrowstounness, Dec.* 23. 1786.

## JUDICIAL SALE

*By Adjournment,—and Upset Price Reduced.*

TO be SOLD by public roup, within the Parliament or New Session House of Edinburgh, upon Thursday the 8th February, 1787, betwixt the hours of four and six afternoon,

The following Subject which pertained to James Grant of Carron, viz. An HERITABLE DEBT of 800 l. Sterling of principal, with annualrents due thereon since the term of Martinmas 1778, constituted by heritable bond, and infeftment thereon, over the lands and barony of Redcastle, lying in the parishes of Killernan and Kilmuir, and shire of Ross, and to which the said James Grant of Carron, has right by progress.—The value of which heritable debt is proven to be

| | |
|---|---|
| Principal sum in said bond - | L. 800 0 0 |
| Interest due thereon from Martinmas 1778 - - - | 323 12 3 |
| Sum at which the said debt was exposed to sale, - - | L. 1123 12 3 |

But which is now to be exposed to sale at the upset price of One Thousand Pounds Sterling.

The titles and articles of sale are in the Office of Mr Alexander Ross, depute clerk of session.

## ROUP OF A BLEACHFIELD.

THE roup of the BLEACHFIELD of Strathmiglo, houses, and lands of Bankwell, lying in the parish of Strathmiglo, and shire of Fife, as lately possessed by the deceased William Carrick; which was to have taken place on Friday the 29th December 1786, is adjourned to Friday the 12th January 1787, when the same as formerly advertised, will be exposed to public roup, betwixt the hours of five and six afternoon, in John's Coffeehouse, Edinburgh.

These subjects lie in the parish of Strathmiglo, and shire of Fife, are well situated for carrying on an extensive bleaching or printing trade, being in the heart of a populous manufacturing country, and not far from a sea-port. A purchaser may enter to the possession directly,

The progress of writs and conditions of sale, may be seen by applying to William Finlayson, writer in Edinburgh.

BY ADJOURNMENT.

## Sale of Lands and Fishings

In the Counties of Nairn and Ross.

TO be SOLD by public roup, within the Old Exchange Coffeehouse, on Friday the 12th day of January next 1787, betwixt the hours of five and seven afternoon,

The Two Remaining Lots of the Estates in Scotland, which belonged to the deceased Sir Alexander Grant, Baronet, viz.

LOT I. The LANDS and TENEMENTS lying in and about the town of Nairn, with one half of the salmon-fishings on the water of Nairn, held of subject-superiors, yielding of free yearly rent 232 l. 14 s. 10 d. Sterling.—These Lands are out of lease; and the rents have not been raised for many years past. They are well supplied with peats from the mosses of Nairn, and accommodated with a considerable extent of out pasture-ground of the commonty of Nairn. The old Mansion-house, pigeon-house, and garden of Clava, are included in this parcel; and there are sundry boats for white or sea fishing which pay teind-fish that are not rentalled. This lot is to be exposed at the reduced upset-price of 5000 l. Sterling.

LOT II. The LANDS lying in and about the towns of Fortrose and Rosemarkie, situated along the bays of Fortrose and Avock, holding feu partly of the Magistrates of Fortrose, and partly of the heirs of Mr Ross of Cromarty The free rent of these lands, converting 15 bolls 2 firlots bear at ten shillings per boll, amounts to 192 l. 7 s. 10 d. Sterling. And they are to be exposed at the reduced upset price of 4500.

Persons intending to purchase may, in the mean time, apply, to William Keith, accomptant in Edinburgh who has powers to sell by private bargain. And Colquhoun Grant writer to the signet, will show the title-deeds, rentals, and articles of roup.

## SALE OF JOHNSTON

ADJOURNED.

To be Sold by private bargain, within the Exchange Coffeehouse, Edinburgh, on Wednesday the 14th day of February 1787, between five and six in the evening,

THE Lands of Johnston, called Johnston Mains, with the pertinents, lying in the parish of Eskdalemuir and sheriffdom of Dumfries.

The lands are pleasantly situated on the water of Esk, between Hawick and Langholm, about an equal distance from each. The present rent is only about 40l. but a considerable rise may be expected on the purchaser's entry, which may be immediately, as there are no tacks on the lands.

Thomas Johnston of Grange will inform as to particulars concerning their extent, and the tenants will show the grounds.

The progress of writs, which are clear, and rental, may be seen by applying to Messrs John Gordon and Alexander Abercrombie, writers to the signet, who have power to conclude a bargain.

TO be SOLD by public roup or auction, within the Ex- [illegible] 24th January 1787, betwixt the hours of six and [illegible] noon, Wednesday the ternoon,

## I. The Barony of CLOWDEN, *alias* NEWARK,

lying in the parish of Kirkpatrick Irongray, and stewartry of Kirkcudbright, comprehending the lands and farms of Rowton Bridge, Upper, Nether, and Mid Dalwhairn, Lagg, Rouchtree, Hallhill, Cobbexholm, Newark Braes, Whinnyhill, Ingleston, Gateside, or Kirkpatrick and Clowden, with the corn, barley, and wheat mills, a salmon fishing in the river Clowden, and the vice patronage of the parish of Kirkpatrick Irongray.

This estate is of a remarkable good soil, well inclosed and subdivided with thriving fall grown hedges; it is at present in good condition, and there is sufficiency of shell marl upon it to keep it so. It contains about 1870 English acres, whereof 1500 are arable and meadow, about 90 woodland, and the remainder very good pasture. The present rent is 882 l. 1 s. 1 d. Sterling, and the tenants beside pay the victual stipend and school salary; but a considerable rise of rent may be depended on at the expiry of the current leases. It holds of the Crown, and stands rated in the cess-books at 1260 l. 10 s. Scots. The teinds are valued, and the purchaser will have right to them.

The woods are well inclosed, and very thriving; at last cutting they sold for upwards of 700 l. Sterling, exclusive of the woods on Hallhill, which are presently fit for sale.

This estate is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Clowden, within three miles of the town of Dumfries; and it has many delightful situations upon it for building a mansion-house, which would command the view of the rivers Nith and Clowden, the town and port of Dumfries, the whole gentlemens seats in that rich and populous neighbourhood, the Solway Frith, and the Cumberland hills; and there is a good free-stone quarry on the estate, near a good stance for a mansion-house.

Mr W. Black, at Nando's Coffeehouse, London, can give a full description of this estate.

II. The Lands of Over and Nether BARNCLEUGHS, lying in the said parish and county, within a mile and an half of Clowden, consisting of about 200 English acres, whereof 160 are arable, and 19 moss, where there is an inexhaustible quantity of shell marl.

These lands are all sufficiently inclosed and subdivided with good stone walls. The present rent is only 50 l. but when the current lease expires at Martinmas 1787, a considerable rise will be got.

The teinds are valued, and the purchaser will have righ to them.

III. These parts of the Barony of GLASSNOCK, lying in the parish of Peningham and county of Wigton, comprehending the farms of Over and Nether Glassnocks, and Killeal, with a salmon-fishing in the river Bladnoch, and the superiority of the lands of Drummory and Carsbule, lying in the parish of Kirkcowan, and county of Wigton.

These are good grazing lands both for black cattle and sheep. The present rent, including the feu-duties in Kirkcowan parish, is only 81 l. 11 s. 2½ d. and services and casualties to the value of about 5 l. more; but the tenants paid large grassums in 1766, when their leases commenced; so, in 1787, when they expire, a great rise may be depended on, large offers being already made. The teinds are valued; and the tenants pay all the public burdens, stipend excepted.

The title-deeds, conditions of sale, tacks, rentals, plans, and measurements of the several estates before mentioned, will be seen in the hands of William Campbell writer to the signet, Edinburgh; and, for further information, apply to Alexander Farquharson accomptant in Edinburgh, who has power to sell by private bargain.

John Linton, in Gateside, near Dumfries, will show the estate of Clowden; and Mr Cockburn, at Cree-bridge, the lands in Wigtonshire.

TO BE SOLD OR LET,

## THE Lands of Easter Langlee, in the

parish of Melrose, and county of Roxburgh. This Farm consists of above 400 English acres, all arable, and finely watered. It is beautifully situated upon the river of Tweed, nearly midway betwixt Melrose and Galashiels, within about a mile and a half of each of these towns, with the turnpike road running through the lands. The river Tweed bounds the farm on the south; and, on the west, north, and east, it is well sheltered by high grounds; so that it is warm and early land. No improvement hath hitherto been made upon it. The present rent is only 70 l. and the current lease expires at Whitsunday next.

For further particulars, apply to Archibald Gibson writer to the signet, who is empowered to let or sell the subject, and with whom a plan of the lands and the title-deeds are lodged.

## AYR-SHIRE.

TO be SOLD by public voluntary roup, within the King's Arms Inn in Ayr, upon Thursday the 11th day of January 1787, at twelve o'clock noon,

The Three-Pound Land of old extent of KIRKDOMINE, *alias* KIRKLANDS, and UPPER and NETHER ALDOUNS, with the teinds;—The Forty Shilling Land of NETHER PINMORE, and DAMB and HOLM thereof, with the right of redemption of the free teinds;—The Three-Pound Land of Upper and Nether BALLICKMURRIES, FARDENREOCH, and CRAGCANNOCHIE, with the teinds thereof;—The Lands of MINUNTION;—And the Five-Merk Land of MEIKLE and NETHER BENNAN, and teinds of the same; all lying in the parishes of Barr and Colmonell, and shire of Ayr. The rent presently payable for these lands is as follows, viz.

| | Rent. | | *By lease expt. till Whits.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| For Kirkdomine, *alias* Kirklands, L. | 32 | 0 0 | 1792 & 1793 |
| Upper and Nether Aldouns, and Woodkeeper's possession, | 48 | 0 0 | 1830 |
| Nether Pinmore, and Damb and Holm thereof, | 30 | 0 0 | 1789 |
| Ballickmurries, | 46 | 0 0 | 1808 |
| Fardenreoch, | 36 | 0 0 | 1804 |
| Cragcannochie | 24 | 0 0 | 1802 |
| Minuntion, | 41 | 0 0 | 1804 |
| Meikle and Nether Bennan, | 52 | 10 0 | 1808 |
| | L. 309 | 10 0 | |

The rents are all well paid, and the tenants besides pay the whole public burdens.

These lands extend to about 3429 acres, Scotch measure, and are pleasantly situated on the water of Stincher. They abound with lime, and are within a few miles of coal. There is likewise upon them a very considerable quantity of valuable WOOD, nearly ready for cutting.

All these lands are held blench of the Prince, excepting the Kirklands and Aldouns, which hold of the Crown, &c. and the Benans, which hold of a subject for payment of a small feu-duty. The proprietor stands inrolled as a Freeholder upon Kirkdomine, Upper and Nether Aldouns, Nether Pinmore and Damb and Holm, and Ballickmurries, Fardenreoch, and Cragcannochie, by valuation, which extends to 516 l. 13 s. 4 d.; but there is a retour upon the Aldouns, which it is believed will give a vote of itself, and upon a division of the valuation, leave what is sufficient for another.—There is likewise, it is believed a vote by retour upon Minuntion.

The whole teinds are valued.

If these lands are not sold altogether, they will be exposed in the following Lots, viz.

LOT I. KIRKDOMINE, *alias* KIRKLANDS.

There is wood upon this lot to the value of upwards of 100 l.; and there is an annual Fair held upon the lands, which yields of custom, 11. 10 s. Sterling. It is expected the rent of this lot will rise considerably upon a new set.

LOT II. UPPER and NETHER ALDOUNS, and Woodkeeper's Possession, NETHER PINMORE & DAMB and HOLM thereof.

The wood upon the lands, it is supposed, may be worth upwards of 1000 l.; and there is an inexhaustable lime-quarry, having the benefit of a draw-kiln, and a good turnpike road running close by it. These lands lie within four miles of the sea-port town of Girvan.

LOT III. BALLICKMURRIES.

LOT IV. FARDENREOCH and CRAGCANNOCHIE.

These lands are partly inclosed, and there is som upon them.—Cragcannochie is very low set.

LOT V. MINUNTION.

The proprietor is entitled to resume the possession of this farm at Whitsunday 1792, when more rent may be expected. It is mostly all arable, and contains abundance of lime. There is likewise some wood upon it, and it is partly inclosed.

LOT VI. MEIKLE and NETHER BENNAN.

In these lands the lime is inexhaustible, and they have some wood upon them.

The proprietor of this estate has right to Salmon Fishing in the water of Stincher, which is of some value.

The tenants will shew the lands; and for further particulars, application may be made to Primrose Kennedy of Drummellan, Esq; Mr William Leggat, by Stranraer; or Andrew Blane writer to the signet, who will show the title-deeds, &c. and be ready to treat with any person by private bargain.

NOTICE

All persons having claims against Mr M'ILWRATH Kirkland, will please send notes thereof, without delay, the above Andrew Blane.

## SALE OF PRESTONHALL

BY ADJOURNMENT,

*At the desire of persons intending to offer.*

TO be SOLD by auction, within the Exchange Coffeehouse of Edinburgh, on Wednesday the 24th day of January 1787, between the hours of six and seven afternoon,

The LANDS and BARONY of PRESTONHALL, lying within the parish of Cranstown and shire of Mid-Lothian, within ten measured miles of Edinburgh, and in the neighbourhood of the great turnpike-road leading from thence to Coldstream. This estate contains more than 720 English acres, all inclosed and subdivided with thriving hedges and stripes of planting. The inclosures are in general well watered. The greatest part of the lands has, for many years, been in the natural possession of the proprietor; and, having been long in pasture, they are now in very good heart. There is a valuable coal, level free, within the estate, with a servitude of limestone upon a neighbouring property, whereby the means of improvement are easily attained. There is full grown timber upon the estate, to a considerable value, and upwards of 75 acres of young thriving wood. There is a large commodious mansion-house, and offices of every kind upon the premisses, all in good repair, and sufficient to accommodate any family; and, in one of the offices there is a hot and cold bath, with a dressing room adjoining. There are also two exceeding good pigeon-cotes, very well stocked. The gardens are extensive, and the fruit-walls in good bearing. The lowest yearly value of this estate, estimated by persons of skill and character, exceeds 800 l. Sterling, exclusive of the coal. The estate holds blench of the Crown; stands valued in the cess-books at 950 l. Scots, and the proprietor has right to the tithes.

The progress of writs, and conditions of sale, with a survey of the estate, and estimates of the annual value, are to be seen in the hands of Charles Gordon writer to the signet, at his house in St John's Street, Edinburgh. Any person intending to purchase, may apply for particulars to the said Charles Gordon, who has powers to conclude a private bargain before the roup.

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